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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

3/7/13/01
A. Carby

Applicant : Klaus F. Schuegraf

) Group Art Unit 2813

Appl. No. : 09/770,540

Filed : January 26, 2001

For : RUGGED METAL
ELECTRODES FOR METAL-
INSULATOR-METAL
CAPACITORS

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July 5, 2001

(Date)

Adeel S. Akhtar

Adeel S. Akhtar, Reg. No. 41,394

Examiner : Unknown

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The Examiner has required restriction to one of the following four groups:

- I. Claims 1-5, drawn to a method of forming a textured metal structure;
- II. Claims 6-12, 20, drawn to a method of fabricating a capacitor;
- III. Claims 13-18, drawn to a DRAM device; and
- IV. Claim 19, drawn to a capacitor device.

Initially, Applicant notes that the Preliminary Amendment, originally submitted with the filing documents on the filing date of the present application (January 26, 2001), has apparently not been processed. That Preliminary Amendment deleted all structure Claims 13-19, as well as adding dependent Claims 21-24. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the Preliminary Amendment.

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With respect to the further restriction between Groups I and II, Applicant respectfully traverses new restriction. Claims having a scope similar to both of these groups of claims were examined and allowed in the parent application, Serial No. 09/161,156, filed September 25, 1998. Applicant submits that, while the two sets of method claims may be patentably distinct, they do not require a separate search.

In response to the restriction requirement, however, Applicant elects, with traverse, to proceed with the invention of Group II (Claims 6-12, 20, 22-24).

Applicant submits that the application is in condition for examination on the merits and respectfully requests the same.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: July 5, 2001

By: Adeel S. Akhtar
Adeel S. Akhtar
Registration No. 41,394
Attorney of Record
620 Newport Center Drive
Sixteenth Floor
Newport Beach, CA 92660
(415) 954-4114

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